Appl. No. 10/648,579 Reply to Office Action of October 19, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In an ADVISORY ACTION dated December 30, 2005, the Examiner withdrew all rejections except for the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 1-7 and 12.

The double patenting rejection contained a clerical error with respect to the intended document and the Examiner clarified that the correct document was Application No. 10/647,170.

Applicants submit that the Patent Office procedure should be to withdraw the double patenting rejection since the claims in the copending application are not close to allowance and there is no way to be certain as to their allowed form. However, to advance the prosecution applicants are submitting concurrently herewith, a Terminal Disclaimer to avoid the double patenting rejection.

Entry of this AMENDMENT and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

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